

## CHICKENS and EGGS

Chickens have been around for a long time. Many sources believe they were the first species of bird to be domesticated. The first domesticated chickens are believed to have originated from four wild fowl varieties found in the Indus Valley and the Indian subcontinent. Chickens were prized for eating, fighting, and breeding in the ancient world. They were first brought to the New World by Christopher Columbus. Various Indians eagerly accepted the chickens and evolved them for conditions in their areas. During the 1800's chicken breeding boomed. Many of the resulting breeds are popular even today. Food production made huge leaps during WWI and by the end of WWII, producing chicken became a highly valued industry.

In 2004, the number of all chickens in Washington decreased 5 percent from 2003, to 5.93 million chickens. The number of

layers (1 year and older) increased 29 percent from 2003 to 4.89 million. The number of hens and pullets of laying age was 82 percent of the total chickens in Washington on December 1, 2004. The number of chickens sold in 2004 increased from 2.29 million head to 2.58 million head. The price per pound for chickens remained the same as in 2002, 0.1 cent per pound. The value of chickens sold rose from \$8,000 to \$9,000.

Total egg production rose 2 percent from 2003. The value of 2004 egg production Washington totaled \$77.3 million, compared with \$70.3 million the previous year. For more information about poultry, look under the Washington Fryer Commission's Internet Home page at [www.cluckcluck.org](http://www.cluckcluck.org), or visit the NASS website [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

### Poultry: Number on Farms, Washington, December 1, 1995-2004

Year	All Chickens <sup>1</sup>	Hens and Pullets of Laying Age			Not of Laying Age			Oth Chicks	Value	
		Layers 1 Yr and Over	Layers 5 Mo-1 Yr	Total	Pullets-3 Mo and Older	Pullets-Under 3 Mos Old	Total Pullets		Per Head	Total
	<i>1,000 Hd</i>	<i>1,000 Hd</i>	<i>1,000 Hd</i>	<i>1,000 Hd</i>	<i>1,000 Hd</i>	<i>1,000 Hd</i>	<i>1,000 Hd</i>	<i>1,000 Hd</i>	<i>1,000 Dol</i>	<i>1,000 Dol</i>
1995	7,008	2,440	2,790	5,230	873	883	1,756	22	2.00	14,016
1996	6,937	2,914	2,172	5,086	703	1,126	1,829	22	1.80	12,487
1997	6,867	2,815	2,156	4,971	1,090	805	1,895	1	1.90	13,047
1998	6,969	2,513	2,538	5,051	940	977	1,917	1	2.00	13,938
1999	6,233	2,092	2,563	4,655	914	663	1,577	1	1.70	10,596
2000	6,721	3,508	1,375	4,883	841	993	1,834	4	1.90	12,770
2001	6,372	3,120	1,848	4,968	620	782	1,402	2	2.30	14,656
2002	6,484	3,406	1,756	5,162	179	1,141	1,320	2	2.40	15,562
2003	6,230	3,803	1,103	4,906	631	692	1,323	1	2.50	15,575
<b>2004</b>	<b>5,933</b>	<b>4,892</b>	( <sup>2</sup> )	<b>4,892</b>	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	<b>1,040</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2.40</b>	<b>14,239</b>

<sup>1</sup> Excludes commercial broilers. <sup>2</sup> Not available due to program change.

# Chickens & Eggs

## Production & Income, Washington, 1995-2004 <sup>1</sup>

Year	Chickens					Eggs		
	Number Lost <sup>2</sup>	Number Sold For Slaughter	Pounds Sold	Price Per Pound	Value of Sales	Eggs Produced	Price Per Dozen <sup>3</sup>	Value of Production
	<i>1,000 Hd</i>	<i>1,000 Hd</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>1,000 Dol</i>	<i>Mil</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>1,000 Dol</i>
1995	1,090	3,500	12,950	2.0	259	1,455	76.9	93,241
1996	1,170	3,200	11,200	2.0	224	1,412	76.4	89,897
1997	1,000	3,000	10,200	2.0	204	1,379	65.3	75,024
1998	648	3,209	10,911	2.0	218	1,393	59.4	68,979
1999	643	3,094	10,520	1.0	105	1,307	54.2	59,041
2000	671	2,683	9,122	1.0	91	1,306	55.1	59,985
2001	716	2,723	9,531	0.1	10	1,339	56.1	62,544
2002	569	2,272	7,498	0.1	7	1,369	48.6	55,460
2003	696	2,285	8,226	0.1	8	1,307	64.6	70,323
<b>2004</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>2,577</b>	<b>8,762</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1,332</b>	<b>69.7</b>	<b>77,348</b>

<sup>1</sup> Estimates cover the 12 month period from December 1, previous year, through November 30, and excludes broilers. <sup>2</sup> Includes rendered, died, destroyed, composted or disappeared for any reason for the 12-month period. <sup>3</sup> Average of all eggs, including hatchng eggs.

# Average Number of Layers, Eggs Per Layer, & Egg Production, By Month, Washington, 1995-2004 <sup>1</sup>

Year	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	State Total <sup>2</sup>
<b>Average Number of All Layers (1,000)</b>													
1995	5,253	5,239	5,411	5,531	5,560	5,631	5,562	5,384	5,239	5,238	5,230	5,203	5,373
1996	5,236	5,186	5,118	5,152	5,164	5,173	5,242	5,273	5,122	5,045	5,122	5,012	5,154
1997	5,080	4,983	4,890	4,939	5,008	5,094	5,152	5,082	5,103	5,176	5,095	4,997	5,050
1998	4,971	4,977	4,995	5,072	5,123	5,044	4,979	5,004	5,049	5,062	4,995	4,993	5,022
1999	5,013	4,940	4,925	4,815	4,739	4,753	4,687	4,726	4,736	4,755	4,811	4,724	4,802
2000	4,736	4,745	4,732	4,784	4,826	4,946	4,954	4,912	4,810	4,776	4,899	4,909	4,836
2001	4,969	4,996	4,942	5,054	5,028	4,956	4,915	4,842	4,983	4,996	5,066	5,101	4,987
2002	5,077	5,196	5,118	5,078	5,159	5,191	5,269	5,236	5,195	5,187	5,129	5,157	5,166
2003	5,084	4,964	4,959	4,954	4,952	4,915	4,860	4,842	4,835	4,874	4,872	4,886	4,916
<b>2004</b>	<b>4,943</b>	<b>4,930</b>	<b>4,912</b>	<b>4,944</b>	<b>4,901</b>	<b>4,912</b>	<b>4,897</b>	<b>4,849</b>	<b>4,928</b>	<b>4,986</b>	<b>5,017</b>	<b>4,969</b>	<b>4,932</b>
<b>Eggs Laid Per 100 Layers (Numbers)</b>													
1995	2,380	2,367	2,070	2,242	2,176	2,255	2,211	2,303	2,310	2,253	2,294	2,229	
1996	2,273	2,275	2,149	2,368	2,246	2,300	2,270	2,352	2,362	2,240	2,284	2,234	
1997	2,343	2,308	2,086	2,318	2,196	2,291	2,232	2,296	2,312	2,231	2,336	2,315	
1998	2,434	2,391	2,122	2,326	2,225	2,339	2,310	2,378	2,357	2,252	2,342	2,263	
1999	2,314	2,348	2,091	2,326	2,216	2,272	2,240	2,328	2,344	2,250	2,266	2,223	
2000	2,302	2,297	2,198	2,341	2,259	2,305	2,220	2,321	2,287	2,094	2,184	2,200	
2001	2,254	2,222	2,064	2,335	2,247	2,300	2,177	2,292	2,288	2,182	2,270	2,215	
2002	2,305	2,256	2,052	2,324	2,233	2,254	2,202	2,330	2,214	2,024	2,125	2,191	
2003	2,262	2,196	1,976	2,160	2,100	2,177	2,243	2,396	2,378	2,195	2,258	2,251	
<b>2004</b>	<b>2,266</b>	<b>2,170</b>	<b>2,036</b>	<b>2,245</b>	<b>2,244</b>	<b>2,382</b>	<b>2,308</b>	<b>2,269</b>	<b>2,110</b>	<b>2,166</b>	<b>2,452</b>	<b>2,355</b>	
<b>Egg Production (Million Eggs)</b>													
1995	125	124	112	124	121	127	123	124	121	118	120	116	1,455
1996	119	118	110	122	116	119	119	124	121	113	117	114	1,412
1997	119	115	102	115	110	117	115	117	118	116	119	116	1,379
1998	121	119	106	118	114	118	115	119	119	114	117	113	1,393
1999	121	116	103	112	105	108	105	110	111	107	109	105	1,307
2000	116	109	104	112	109	114	110	114	110	100	107	108	1,306
2001	109	111	102	118	113	114	107	111	114	109	115	113	1,339
2002	112	117	105	118	115	117	116	122	115	105	109	113	1,369
2003	117	109	98	107	104	107	109	116	115	107	110	110	1,307
<b>2004</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>1,332</b>

<sup>1</sup> Annual estimates cover the period from December 1, previous year through November 30.

<sup>2</sup> Months may not add to State total due to rounding.